Appendix 10-808-2, SIGMET Identification and Examples

Each preamble should include a sequence consisting of a phonetic word representing a Letter of the alphabet followed by a number. Individual MWO's are assigned phonetic words for this purpose. Phonetic words may be repeated when necessary (for example, ALFA ALFA 1) to cope with a situation involving more simultaneous SIGMET events in an MWO's area than the number of phonetic words assigned to an MWO. The assignments, intended to minimize confusion, are as follows:

MWO Anchorage - Alfa, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo
MWO Juneau - Foxtrot, Golf, Hotel, India
MWO Fairbanks - Juliett, Kilo, Lima, Mike, November
MWO Guam - Oscar, Papa, Quebec
MWO Honolulu - Romeo, Sierra, Tango, Uniform, Victor
MWO San Francisco - Whiskey, X-ray, Yankee, Zulu
MWO Miami - Oscar, Papa, Quebec, Romeo
MWO Washington - Sierra, Tango, Uniform, Victor
MWO San Juan - Whiskey, X-ray, Yankee, Zulu

The phonetic word should refer to a phenomenon (or phenomena) associated with a specific weather system. As an explanation, the first time a SIGMET is issued by an MWO for active thunderstorms associated with a specific intense low-pressure area, the SIGMET should be assigned the next unassigned phonetic word and should be numbered as the first SIGMET related to the phenomenon. An example might be SIGMET OSCAR 1. The compete preamble for such a SIGMET, issued, for example, by MWO Miami, could be:

KZHU SIGMET SOCAR 1 VALID 050745/051115 KMIA-

This would be a SIGMET concerning hazardous weather in the Houston Oceanic FIR; it would be the first one issued by MWO Miami concerning a phenomenon (or phenomena) related to a specific weather system. Its use, for that particular weather system, would be continued (beyond 2400 UTC if necessary) as long as the issuing MWO would issue SIGMET's for phenomena related to the system. the number following the alphabetic identifier (OSCAR in this case) would identify the SIGMET as the first one issued for hazardous phenomenon/phenomena associated with the weather system in question. the SIGMET would be valid for 3 hours 30 minutes following 0745 UTC. Subsequent SIGMET related to the same weather system would carry the sequence identification OSCAR 2, OSCAR 3, etc., continuing beyond 2400 UTC if necessary, reaching, for example, OSCAR 8 or some larger number. It should retain the alphabetic designator until the phenomenon ends or moves into another MWO's area of responsibility. In the case of an alphabetically identified series continued beyond 2400 UTC, the date-time group of the heading as well as the date-time groups giving the validity period should distinguish the SIGMET message from those of the previous day.

Example of appropriate SIGMET preambles (with underlining to identify the preambles) are given below:

1. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Anchorage related to the Oakland Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSPN1 PANC 051757
KZOA SIGMET CHARLIE 1 VALID 051810/052200 PANC-
(Text follows)

2. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Fairbanks related to the Anchorage Arctic Flight Information Region:

WSAC1 PAFA 071825
PAZA SIGMET KILO 2 VALID 071835/072100 PAFA-
(Text follows)

3. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Anchorage related to the Anchorage Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSPN1 PANC 051802
PAZA SIGMET DELTA 1 VALID 051815/052215 PANC-
(Text follows)

4. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Juneau related to the Anchorage Continental Flight Information Region:

WSPN1 PJNU 051805
PAZA SIGMET FOXTROT 1 VALID 051820/052220 PAJN-
(Text follows)

5. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Guam related to the Oakland Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSPA PGUM 051821
KZOA SIGMET OSCAR OSCAR 1 VALID 051830/052230 PGUM-
(Text follows. Note that the identification is OSCAR OSCAR 1. what this means is that SIGMET's for three simultaneously existing hazardous weather events have been issue by MWO Guam, using up all the three individual alphabetic series available -- OSCAR, PAPA, and QUEBEC -- and Guam then assigns, as the next alphabetic identification, the OSCAR OSCAR series. The next available series, should double up still be required, would be PAPA PAPA. Such a circumstance is considered to be unlikely to occur).

6. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Honolulu related to the Oakland Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSPA1 PHNL 051750
KZOA SIGMET ROMEO 3 VALID 051800/052200 PHNL-
(Text follows)

7. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Honolulu, pertaining to phenomena related to a tropical cyclone, for the Oakland Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSPA2 PHNL 051755
KZOA SIGMET SIERRA 1 VALID 051810/060010 PHNL-
(Text follows)

8. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO San Francisco related to the Oakland Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSPA1 KSFO 051737
KZOA SIGMET WHISKEY 1 VALID 051745/052100 KSFO-
(Text follows)

9. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Miami related to the Houston Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSCA KMIA 090905
KZHU SIGMET QUEBEC 2 VALID 090910/091310 KMIA-
(Text follows)

10. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Miami related to the Miami Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSCA KMIA 101142
KZMA SIGME ROME 1 VALID 101150/101500 KMIA-
(Text follows)

11. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO Washington related to the New York Oceanic Flight Information Region:

WSNT KWBC 120505
KZNY SIGMET VICTOR 3 VALID 120515/120900 KWBC-
(Text follows)

12. Example of SIGMET preamble for SIGMET issued by MWO San Juan related to the San Juan Flight Information Region:

WSCA TJSJ 131425
TJZS SIGMET ZULU 1 VALID 131435/131835 TJSJ-
(Text follows)